

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM: 9 (b)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

5th March 2013

COMMUNITY SAFETY and LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To inform Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board of the progress made to date by the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board approves the actions of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel since the last update.

PROGRESS OF THE PANEL

- 3 **Leisure Services** – This background has been conveyed to the Overview and Scrutiny Board previously. This is basically that the panel has received information from the service and Executive Member regarding consideration to move some facilities to a Leisure Trust. The panel recognised the potential financial benefits in relation to tax. However, there are concerns regarding how this action removes the Council's ability to directly manage some issues. The panel considered that there are some substantial risks associated with this move to leisure trust.
- 4 The panel then moved onto looking at the level of Leisure service provided in Middlesbrough by the Council, the present budget allocation and how this compared and contrasted with private sector leisure in Middlesbrough.

- 5 The intention was to ensure Members had a comprehensive knowledge of the Leisure function before considering the area the panel would identify for Scrutiny.
- 6 The panel is next scheduled to meet on the 27th February. The panel will endeavour to identify their Terms of Reference and Lines of Enquiry for a scrutiny into leisure which aligns with the heading of "*The shaping of Leisure Facilities provided by the Council in response to budgetary reduction*" as determined by OSB in the work programme.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7 No background paper was used in the preparation of this report: -

COUNCILLOR FRANCES McINTYRE

**CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LEISURE
SCRUTINY PANEL**

18th February 2013

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